

**Hard Rock Mining Impact Board
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2015 Conference Call
MT Department of Commerce, Helena, MT**

Board Members on Conference Call

Chairman Mary Ellen Cremer, Vice-Chair Marianne Roose, Donna von Nieda, Joe Michaletz, and Dolores Plumage

Montana Department of Commerce Staff Present

Aaron Pratt, Hard Rock Impact Mining Administrative Officer, Ethan Stapp, Community Development Division staff, Jennifer Olson, Grants Bureau Chief, and Amy Peck, Administrative Assistant.

Public present on the call:

Maureen Davey – Stillwater County

Welcome – Call to order

Chairman Cremer called to order the meeting of the Hard Rock Mining Impact Board at 9:12 a.m.

Roll call:

Ms. Peck called the Roll for Board members. The following board members were present on the call: Mary Ellen Cremer, Donna von Nieda, Joe Michaletz, Marianne Roose, and Dolores Plumage.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments.

Discussion of process for updating the Guide to the Implementation of the Hard Rock Mining Impact Act

- Mr. Stapp – Community Development staff, provided a summary of the Guide that was last updated in 2008 although not in a substantive way.
- Chairwoman Cremer – Are there areas that staff feel are in desperate need of change?
- Ms. Olson – Grants Bureau Chief, one of the main changes that could be made is to just note the ARM's and the MCA's instead of having them cited throughout the document.
- Chairwoman Cremer – do all board members wish to participate in the process of updating the Guide? And, what would be the best method to do this? Will staff assign sections or do any of the Board members want a specific chapter?
- Mr. Michaletz and Chairwoman Cremer agree to split chapter 2 with Mr. Michaletz reviewing pages 1 – 30 and Chairwoman Cremer will review pages 31 – 60.
- Ms. Roose will review chapter 3.
- Ms. von Nieda will review chapter 4.
- Ms. Plumage may or may not review chapters 5 and 6 depending on extenuating circumstances. If she cannot, these will be reviewed by others.
- Chapter 1 is an overview that will be updated as other changes are made to the other chapters.
- Mr. Stapp – we will email out the document to all as well as mail a cd of it.
- Ms. Olson reminded the board of Ex parte communication. The Board will need to decide how it wants to publicize its review of the Guide; will it be in pieces or all at one time?
- Ms. Davey – Stillwater County, do not whittle it down so much that it loses its intent.
- Chairwoman Cremer – can the 2008 version be posted to the website so that other interested parties may be able to view it?

- Ms. Olson – staff will be happy to send a list serve message to the public notifying them about which parts the Board is working on so they can email that member their comments on what is working with the current document and what changes may need to be made.
- Ms. Davey – that type of communication is appreciated as the Guide is important to all Hard Rock counties. The counties will want time in order to review and comment.

Action by the Board: Ms. von Nieda makes a motion to have public comment due by December 31, 2015. Mr. Michaletz seconded. Motion passed.

- Ms. Olson – to clarify, the Board establishes the calendar; as an example, if the Board would like to have the Final Guide completed by June 2016 the Board can have any number of meetings in order to receive comments, review changes, draft the document, post the changes, etc.
- Chairwoman-Cremer – we will assign hard dates at our October 2015 meeting other than the first public comment period ending on December 31, 2015.
- Ms. Olson – staff will send a list serve message that the 2008 document is available for review and comment and the DOCHRM1@mt.gov email can accept comments that will be forwarded to the Board members.
- Mr. Aaron Pratt – Thank you to the Board for the opportunity to serve and to Mr. Stapp for his assistance.

Adjournment:

With no other business, Ms. Roose made a motion to adjourn. Ms. von Nieda seconded. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Cremer at 10:13 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.


 Mary Ellen Cremer, Board Chair

10/29/15
 Date